

March 5, 1984

LB 970

degree we could force in effect, and that is what you really have to do, you could force competing institutions competing for students, competing for money, competing for turf, that you could force them to sit down and not just consult with one another which does nothing, but to cooperate in order to provide quality education at a cost that could be absorbed. Also in that same law when it was passed it did require a five year period for the Legislature to review those role and missions recognizing that change does occur and should be allowed for. And I will be the first to admit that the five year review, I put in a resolution or numerous resolutions last time relative to postsecondary education but I will be first to agree that the review, at least that I had a part in, was not a broad review from a policy point of view for role and mission of postsecondary education that I would have liked and to the extent that I didn't participate at the level that I should have, I readily admit. My concern, however, is that it should not be passed. I understand the argument that one course is not a problem. I suppose two courses is not a problem. Three is not a problem. But at some point duplication that is unnecessary and costly will be a problem. And I think that it would be a mistake today or this year to advance this bill, to pass it and say we have given up on the opportunity of forcing these institutions to cooperate together. Now true you can point a finger at the MBA degree and specifically at both the University of Nebraska and Kearney State College, from my point of view. I don't believe either for a variety of reasons that at a variety of levels within either...with both institutions have dealt with the cooperative effort of providing this program in a manner that I anticipated or certainly others who were involved in that study anticipated, but neither am I ready to give up that they cannot work out a cooperative effort that will preserve and accomplish the kind of public policy that was originally envisioned in the legislation. Cost is a factor. One of the problems was that the University of Nebraska at Lincoln has an accredited program that is frequently pointed out in an MBA degree and that is accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, it is frequently pointed out that not all MBA degrees granted or all schools who grant MBA's seek accreditation in this source and that